

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/809,535

Examiner

Thomas K. Pham

Applicant(s)

REINISCH ET AL.

Art Unit

2121

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 12/29/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 1-25 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While Van de Steeg (U.S. Patent No. 5,479,618) discloses an industrial controller I/O module includes on-board programming circuitry in the form of a microprocessor and associated memory, a first programmable logic circuit and a second programmable logic circuit connected through an isolation interface. The microprocessor on the I/O module for transferring a first portion of configuration data between a memory and the first programmable logic circuit and a second portion of configuration data between the memory and the second programmable logic circuit through the first programmable logic circuit and the isolation interface. Van de Steeg does not teach a process module specific data including data indicating whether a program is to be executed in the program control unit of either the process module or the basic controller; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

And Dodds (U.S. Patent No. 4,972,365) discloses a program in a higher-level language for a programmable controller is stored as a hex-coded file in a memory in a mail processor unit. The system includes several I/O process modules for translating the program into a multi-table data structure in order to relate the state of output devices on controlled equipment to the state of input devices on the equipment. Dodds does not teach a process module specific data including data indicating whether a program is to be executed in the program control unit of either the process module or the basic controller; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

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Neither of these references taken either alone or in combination discloses a method and device for installation in a processing station having all the claimed features of applicant's instant invention, specifically including: a process module specific data including data indicating whether a program is to be executed in the program control unit of either the process module or the basic controller. Also, there is no motivation to combine the Van de Steeg reference with the Dodds reference to meet these limitations. It is for these reasons that applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner *Thomas Pham*; whose telephone number is (571) 272-3689, Monday to Thursday from 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM EST or contact Supervisor *Mr. Anthony Knight* at (571) 272-3687.

Thomas Pham*Patent Examiner*

February 16, 2006


Anthony Knight
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600